

Scientific Note:

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey - I. Tahir Pass (Ağrı Province)^{1,2}

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From 22nd June to 4th July 2008, the authors visited the following 10 provinces of East Turkey, by driving more than 5500km with their private car: Ağrı, Erzurum, Gümüşhane, Bayburt, Trabzon³, Erzincan, Kahramanmaraş, Mersin⁴, Malatya, and Bingöl. Brief information on the faunistical results and illustrated field notes will be published in the coming issues of the Cesa News at irregular intervals.

The titles are as follows:

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey I. Tahir Pass (Ağrı Province) [presented in this issue]

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey II. Kop Dağı, Vauk Pass (Erzurum, Bayburt, and Gümüşhane Provinces).

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey III. Maçka, Altındere valley (Trabzon Province).

¹ Kemal, M. & A.Ö. Koçak, 2007, Synonymical and distributional list of the species of Ağrı Province (North East Turkey) (Lepidoptera). *Cent. ent. Stud., Misc. Pap.* 107/108: 1-12. [Totally 441 species were listed].

² Total number of the species of the Lepidoptera known from Ağrı Province is 460 [Cesa Infos-System, stand 5th July, 2008].

³ First author communicated her paper in a session on 25th June, in the 19th Biological Congress, in Karadeniz Teknik Üniversitesi, Trabzon.

⁴ In the Mersin city, the Mersin University was visited for academical purpose.

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey IV. Zigana Mountains (Trabzon and Gümüşhane Provinces).

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey V. Environs of the city Gümüşhane.

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey VI. Köse and Kelkit (Gümüşhane Province).

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey VII. Erzincan Province.

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey VIII. Nurhak Mountains (Kahramanmaraş Province).

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey IX. Malatya Mountains (Malatya Province).

Illustrated Notes on the Entomological Trips to various Provinces of East Turkey X. Environs of the City Bingöl (Bingöl Province).

The photographs and video records were taken by the first author for the archive of the Cesa. All the specimens collected are preserved in the Cesa Collection. Collecting information will be published separately.

In the first part of the series, Tahir Pass, between Eleşkirt and Tahir village in the province Ağrı (N.E.Turkey) (**Map 1**) is illustrated with the early summer plant covers on 22nd June. During the trip from midday until evening, in the way followed, the authors were caught in a heavy storm. Territories of the west of Güneykaya village are illustrated below:



Map 1 – Tahir Pass, between Eleşkirt and Tahir. From <http://www.turkiyeharitasi.com/>



Fig. 1 – Territories of Tahir Pass, west of Güneykaya, ca.2000m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 2 – Most of insects are at rest during unsuitable weather conditions. Tahir Pass, west of Güneykaya, ca.2000m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 3 – A *Linaria* species in blossom (*Scrophulariaceae*). Tahir Pass, west of Güneykaya, ca.2000m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of some microlepidopteran groups (*Eteobalea*, *Stigmatophora* [*Cosmopterigidae*]), macrolepidopteran species (*Eupithecia linariata*, *E. satyrata* [*Geometridae*], Noctuid species, esp. *Calophasia lunula*, *C. opalina*, *C. platyptera*; some *Melitaea* and *Melicta* species (*Argynnidae*); *Procapperia linariae*, *Stenoptilia aridus* (*Pterophoridae*); *Falseuncaria* spp. (*Tortricidae*), etc.⁵



Fig. 4 – An *Anthemis* species in blossom (*Asteraceae*). Tahir Pass, west of Güneykaya, ca.2000m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as nectar plants of many butterflies and larval foodplant of some species of *Bucculatricidae* (*Bucculatrix anthemidella*), *Gelechiidae* (*Isophrictis anthemidella*), *Geometridae* (*Rhodometra*), *Noctuidae* (*Cucullia*), *Pyrallidae*, and *Tortricidae* (*Aethes*, *Cnephasia*, *Cochylidia*, *Phalonidia*, *Thiodia*).

⁵ Larval foodplants in the explanations of the figures are usually based upon the Info-system Cesa.



Fig. 5 – A *Silene* species in blossom (*Caryophyllaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of many lepidopteran species of *Coleophoridae*, *Gelechiidae*, *Geometridae*, *Noctuidae* (especially *Hadena* species), and *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 6 – A *Rumex* species in blossom (*Polygonaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). See also fig.7.



Fig. 7 – A *Rumex* species in blossom (*Polygonaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). See also fig. 6. This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of many lepidopteran species of *Arctiidae*, *Gelechiidae*, *Geometridae*, *Gracillariidae*, *Lycaenidae* (*Lycaena* and related genera), *Lymantriidae*, *Nepticulidae*, *Noctuidae*, *Opostegidae*, *Pyralidae*, *Sesiidae*, *Sphingidae*, *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 8 – A *Parietaria* species on rocky places (*Urticaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Choreutidae* (*Anthophila fabriciana*), *Cosmopterigidae*, *Argynniidae* (*Polygonia egea*, *Vanessa atalanta*).



Fig. 9 – An *Heracleum* species (*Apiaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Epermeniidae*, *Geometridae*, *Noctuidae*, *Oecophoridae*, *Papilionidae*, and *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 10 – An *Hypericum* species (*Clusiaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Adelidae*, *Gelechiidae*, *Geometridae* (*Aplocera*, *Eupithecia*), *Gracillariidae*, *Lyonetiidae*, *Nepticulidae*, *Noctuidae*, *Oecophoridae*, *Pyralidae* (*Ephelis cruentalis*), and *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 11 – A *Dianthus* species (*Caryophyllaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Arctiidae*, *Coleophoridae*, *Gelechiidae*, *Geometridae*, *Lymantriidae*, *Noctuidae*, and *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 12 – A *Coronilla* species (*Fabaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Coleophoridae*, *Gelechiidae*, *Nepticulidae*, *Noctuidae*, *Pieridae*, *Sesiidae*, and *Tortricidae*.



Fig. 13 – A resting male of *Lycaena (Alciphronia) alciphron ssp. melibaeus* (Lycaenidae). Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa).



Fig. 14 – A resting stonefly (Plecoptera, ?Perlidae) inside of *Heracleum* (Apiaceae) Tahir Pass, ca.1900m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa).



Fig. 15 – A *Verbascum* species (*Scrophulariaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). See also Fig.16. This plant genus is known as larval foodplant of *Gelechiidae* (*Nothris verbascella*), *Noctuidae* (*Cucullia*, etc.), *Argynnidae* (*Melitaea fascelis*), *Pterophoridae*, *Sesiidae*, and *Tortricidae* (*Endothenia*).



Fig. 16 – A *Verbascum* species (*Scrophulariaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). See also Fig.15.



Fig. 17 – A grown larva of *Cucullia* (*Shargacucullia*) *verbasci* (*Noctuidae*) on *Verbascum* plant (*Scrophulariaceae*). Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa). See also Figs. 15 & 16.



Fig. 18 – Grazing around the Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa).



Fig. 19 – Grazing around the Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa).



Fig. 20 – Malacophyllous steppe around the Tahir Pass, ca.1800m, 22 June 2008, photo M.Kemal (Cesa).



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